



NEWS RELEASE
For immediate use
8 September 2017

Hillingdon school clerk scoops national award for outstanding practice

Angie Marchant of Colham Manor Primary School in Hillingdon was named outstanding clerk to a governing board at the National Governance Association's (NGA) Outstanding Governance Awards 2017 on Tuesday 5 September. The category recognises the work undertaken by clerks including a thorough understanding of what the role and functions of a governing board are; the ability to be the governing board's critical friend; and something special that they have brought to the governing board beyond the basics.

She was among twelve governing boards and five clerks who received awards presented by Lord Nash (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the School System) to recognise the unique and inspiring contribution that school governors, trustees and clerks make every single day in schools around the country. Each of the finalists was recognised and thanked by the NGA, the judges and Lord Nash for their significant voluntary contribution to education and their impact on lives of so many young people.

Announcing Angie as the category winner, judges Mandy Parsons and Stephen Adamson described her as an "instrumental factor in turning Colham around from a position of weakness and uncertainty to one of strength and confidence." Judges also praised the "excellent service" Angie provides.

They continued: "She supports her governing body with information, advice on matters of law and good practice examples that enable governors to challenge the school leadership in the right areas. Without

imposing her own views, she facilitates training and self-reflection in the governing body to improve its practice. She looks to inspire governors and mentors other clerks in the area.”

Angie Marchant, clerk to the governors at Colham Manor Primary School said: “I am both delighted and honoured to receive this award in recognition for my work and want to thank the Governors at Colham Manor Primary School for valuing and supporting me in my role. I am very proud of our team of governors who have come so far and are dedicated to assisting the school to ensure that the children have the best possible educational experience at Colham Manor.”

Simon Hawley, Head Teacher of Colham Manor Primary School said: “I am delighted for Angie who fully deserves this award. Angie has been fundamental to the improvements and progress that the school has made over time. She is personable and a pleasure to work with – in particular her vast knowledge and attention to detail allows the Governing Board and I to focus on the key aspects of Governance and school improvement.”

Emma Knights, Chief Executive of the National Governance Association, said: “Our finalists for the Outstanding Governance Awards 2017 all demonstrate how good governance and clerking can be. They show how they make a real difference to the achievement of and opportunities for children and young people. It takes commitment, skill, teamwork and clarity of direction to do what these people do and we are proud to celebrate them at the House of Commons.”

- ENDS –

Notes to editors

WORD COUNT = 485

Catch up with the event as it happened on Twitter – @NGAMedia #NGAwards

About NGA

The National Governance Association (NGA) is an independent charity representing and supporting governors, trustees and clerks in maintained schools and academies in England. The NGA’s goal is to improve the well-being of children and young people by increasing the effectiveness of governing boards and promoting high standards. It does this by providing information, guidance, research, advice and training. It also works closely with, and lobbies, UK government and educational bodies, and is the campaigning national membership organisation for school governors and trustees.

www.nga.org.uk

The Outstanding Governance Awards are held every two years to celebrate the unique and inspiring contribution that school governors, trustees and clerks make every single day in schools around the country. The national awards were free to enter and open to any state school in England.

2017 finalists in full:

Outstanding governance in a single school

- Brooklands School, Surrey
- Fairfield Park Lower School, Bedfordshire - WINNER
- Holmes Chapel Primary, Cheshire East – RUNNER UP

- Millennium Primary School, London - WINNER
- Redland Green School, Bristol
- Sir John Barrow School, Cumbria - WINNER
- Torquay Academy, Devon

Outstanding governance in a multi academy trust or federation

- CORE Education Trust, Birmingham – RUNNER UP
- The Spring Partnership Trust, Kent - WINNER

Outstanding vision and strategy

- Hiltingbury Infant School, Eastleigh – RUNNER UP
- Nexus Multi Academy Trust, Rotherham - WINNER

Outstanding clerk to a governing board

- Sally Wood, Holsworthy Area Federation, Devon
- Steve Vale, Reading School, Reading
- Fiona Stagg, Glebe Academy, Stoke-on-Trent
- Angie Marchant, Colham Manor Primary School, Uxbridge - WINNER
- Sylvia Baldwin, The Bligh Federation, Kent

School governors and trustees have three core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent